

Bureau of Oral Health

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2021 Elder Basic Screening Survey

The Bureau of Oral Health within the Kansas Department of Health and Environment administered an oral screening survey of older adults November 2021. Oral disease is a common problem for older adults and can lead to pain and problems with eating and speaking. Untreated oral disease can also be a contributor to serious chronic diseases such as heart and lung disease, and diabetes. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 96 percent of those 65 years and older have had a cavity, 1 in 5 have untreated tooth decay, and 65 percent have gum disease. This demonstrates a possible need for dental treatment and prevention in the older adult population.



The quick facts from this year's survey are:

- A total of 374 nursing facility residents, ranging in age from 44 to 106 years, were screened. Almost six of ten were female (57%), about half (55%) reported being enrolled in Medicaid, and most were non-Hispanic White (87%).
- In 2021, 19% of the nursing facility residents screened had no natural teeth (edentulous) compared to 30% of those screened in 2018-2019.
- Of the edentulous residents screened in 2021, 22 percent had no dentures; similar to the 2018-2019 results (20%).
- In 2021, 21% of the nursing facility residents screened had fewer than 20 teeth compared to 56% of residents screened in 2018-2019. Research has shown that having fewer than 20 teeth has a negative impact on a person's ability to eat.
- Of the dentate residents screened in 2021, 45% had untreated tooth decay compared to 21% of the dentate residents screened in 2018-2019.
- Almost half of the residents with teeth (42%) had substantial oral debris suggesting they are not getting the oral hygiene care they need.

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The Bureau of Oral Health is happy to announce the opportunity to partner with the Ryan White Program at KDHE in forming the first ever, Ryan White Dental Advisory Committee. The purpose of this committee is to focus on improving Oral Health services for all Ryan White participants throughout Kansas. Ryan White participants are Kansans that are living with HIV. The Committee is made up of Dental Professionals, Ryan White Program staff experts and Community Partners. Updates will be provided in future newsletters about great work and accomplishments this committee is dedicated to achieving.



Behind the scenes at BOH

The Bureau of Oral Health is working on three new oral health programs. The first is a continuation of our WIC Oral Health Education pilot program from last summer. We are partnering with local health departments to distribute patient education material and tooth brushing supplies for pregnant women, infants and children. We are uniting with Oral Health Kansas for two more programs. Together we will expand the *Brush, Book, Bed* program across more regions of the state and promote *Cavity Free by Three* statewide. We look forward to continuing these joint efforts for all Kansans.

Oral Health Plan 2nd Quarter updates

You can access the 2022-2027 Oral Health Plan document on our [website](#).

Medical-Dental Integration: No formal initiatives are known where physicians are educating patients about oral health care. It was stated that safety net clinics provide oral health information to patients seeing physicians, and one safety clinic has a dental liaison who talks to patients seeing a physician. We have reached out to stakeholders, the Oral Cancer Foundation, VelScope – a company that sells equipment for oral cancer exams, and CareQuest to discuss a collaboration to educate dentists and physicians about medical/dental integration in Kansas.

Oral Health Kansas (OHK) has stated that they are happy to lead policy changes as well as oral health education for Kansans. According to OHK, education is one of their pillars, as they do “trainings for home visitors, family advocates, people with disabilities, as well as nursing and dental students. Topics include but are not limited to advocacy, access to care, importance of oral health to overall health, and general oral health information focused on pregnancy, infancy, early childhood, elders, and people with disabilities. We have created curricula, consumer handouts, and workshops. Head Start programs use materials that are vetted through the federal Office of Head Start. Some of the safety net clinics use Oral Health Kansas as a resource for educational materials, and they may be using other educational materials as well. We are not aware of a coordinated educational campaign among the clinics. There are national groups that have developed curricula and educational materials that people and organizations across the state use as well, including the American Academy of Pediatrics. We have been a part of media campaigns in the past but they prove to be almost prohibitively expensive.”

After pursuing multiple avenues, it does not appear we can identify the rationale for why people don't sign-up for insurance, but the Kansas Dental Insurance Report with the Kansas Health Institute has a lot of information about the amount of Kansans who are covered by dental insurance.

The Kansas School Nurse Organization president, Ronda Hutchinson, is not aware of an organized effort to consistently screen or educate students in Kansas. She would love to talk about improving both efforts for students in Kansas.





American Dental Association News

Nominations open for evidence-based dentistry awards

The American Dental Association Science & Research Institute and American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research are in search of dental educators and clinicians who have made significant contributions to implement and advance evidence-based dentistry.

The nomination deadline for the Evidence-Based Dentistry Faculty & Practice Awards is April 18. The awards, which include a plaque and \$1,000, will be presented during a ceremony later this year. The awards are supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Colgate.

More information can be found on the ADA [website](#).



Celebrate 150 years of the Kansas Dental Association

Fri, Apr 22, 2022 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Location: Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center 2345 McGee St
Kansas City, MO 64108**

Come celebrate with the KDA as they observe their 150th year as an association. Founded in 1871, 2022 is technically their 151st year, however, due to last year's lock down they have moved the celebrating to this year! Special Guests include ADA President, Cesar R. Sabates, DDS PA and ADA Executive Director, Raymond

A. Cohlma, DDS. Enjoy a ceremonial cake cutting, photo booth, and your favorite beverages! The celebration will take place just hours after the Kansas Dental Association's Annual Meeting which will be held in person with the UMKC Midwest Dental Conference earlier this day.

A Resource for People with Disabilities

People with disabilities are a greater risk for poor oral health and access to and the ability to receive quality oral healthcare is the number one problem faced by children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. Our oral health coalition has worked with the University of Kansas' Disability and Health Program and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to create resources to assist with improving daily oral care as well as access to professional oral health services. The Dental Care Passport is a form that gathers information from the patient or family to help the dental team better understand the patient's needs. It contains detailed information such as communication preferences, mobility limitations, and helpful strategies to best prepare for a successful dental visit. Click [here](#) to view the Dental Care Passport form.



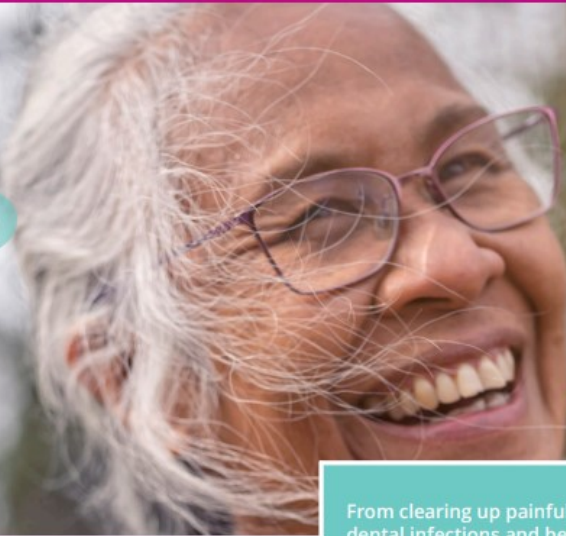
ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

Brush Book Bed Expands

Oral Health Kansas is partnering with the Bureau of Oral Health this year to bring Brush Book Bed to each region of the state. Brush Book Bed is an educational program originally designed by the American Academy of Pediatrics to help families create bedtime routines that involve brushing teeth, reading books, and going to sleep at a regular time. Oral Health Kansas will work with Parents as Teachers programs, school districts, and dental clinics to help families of children under age three. Families will receive books for their children, toothbrush kits, and oral health educational information. To learn more about Brush Book Bed and how to get involved this year, contact Oral Health Kansas at info@oralhealthkansas.org.

Will you see one?

“My broken, decaying teeth are fixed and I can eat again.”



YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFE

WillYouSeeONE.org

From clearing up painful dental infections and being able to eat again to rejoining the workforce - volunteering with Dental Lifeline Network's Donated Dental Services (DDS) program will make a life changing difference for the people we serve.



“Volunteering is easy. DLN screens those in need and coordinates the initial appointment. Patients are treated right in my office, on my schedule. If you're like me and want to make a real difference in someone's life -- DLN makes it possible.”

-Mandy Miller, DDS

The Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association leadership and professional development training

Unleashing Your Potential: KDHA Leadership Training is for dental hygienists who want to: Learn about opportunities within KDHA/ADHA, develop your leadership skills, connect with other dental hygienists, network for career opportunities, personally develop, and make an impact in your dental hygiene community. **Training will be offered every 2nd Tuesday from October through March at 7pm via Zoom.** [Sign up here.](#)

Professional Development Webinar Series will be offered via [CE Zoom](#).

Cost is \$25 per Webinar or free for ADHA Members and Students. Webinar dates are as follows:

June 8 — Negotiating Starting Salary and Raises with Kelly Anderson, RDH, BSDH, MHA 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

July 7 — Travel Dental Hygiene with Gretchen Rutledge, RDH, BSDH (Worth 1 CE) 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

August 3 — Dental Hygiene Career Burnout with Amanda Knutt, RDH, MSDH (Worth 1 CE) 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

September 7 — Managing Conflict with Janette Delinger, RDH, MSDH (Worth 1 CE) 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

KDHA Fall Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2022 in Wichita, Kansas. Registration is now open on [CE Zoom](#).





Bureau of Oral Health Spotlight

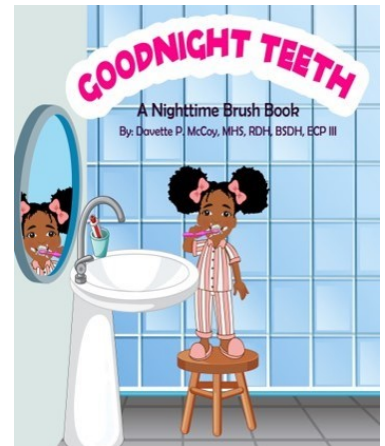
Goodnight Teeth: A Nighttime Brush Book by Davette McCoy

Davette McCoy, MHS, RDH, BSDH, ECP III of Hunter Health, a Federally Qualified Health Center based in Wichita, has written a book for parents to use as part of their nighttime routine for brushing and flossing.

“Being that I spend a lot of time performing dental screenings and expanded services in schools, I see a lot of defects and gum disease. Many times, parents have difficulty with establishing a routine and sticking to it. This book was designed to encouraged parents and children to develop, execute and stay the course with brushing and flossing. Goodnight Teeth also promotes literacy and hopefully motivates parents to take control of their own oral health. We all know that when good oral habits start early on, it promotes positive dental outcomes later in life.”



-Davette McCoy, MHS, RDH, BSDH, ECP III



Davette's book can be found on [Amazon](#). It is available in paperback and for Kindle.

May 11 is National School Nurse Day!

The Bureau of Oral Health would like to say thank you to all the school nurses that help with our school-based dental sealant and school screening programs. We would not be able to offer these important services without your help!

For more information about our school-based oral health programs, please contact Debra Trybom by email debra.trybom@ks.gov.



2021 Elder Screening Survey Data Tables



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The data tables were prepared for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment by Kathy Phipps, DrPH, Data and Oral Health Surveillance Coordinator, for the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors.

All tables can be viewed on the Bureau of Oral Health's [website](#).

Table 4: Oral health of **dentate** nursing facility residents (n=302), 2021

Variable	Percent Yes or Mean	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit
Untreated decay (%)	45.2	39.0	51.3
Root fragments (%)	26.0	20.2	31.8
Tooth mobility (%)	31.1	22.7	39.6
Substantial oral debris (%)*	41.5	32.8	50.2
Gingival inflammation (%)	43.4	37.1	49.8
Suspicious soft tissue lesion (%)*	1.3	0.0	2.6
Upper denture (%)	9.6	6.1	13.2
Lower denture (%)	5.4	2.6	8.2
Needs early or urgent dental care (%)	56.3	49.4	63.2
Needs urgent dental care (%)	4.1	1.2	7.0
Lower teeth present (mean)	11.0	10.6	11.3
Upper teeth present (mean)	10.6	10.0	11.2
Total number of teeth present (mean)	21.6	20.7	22.4

* Information on substantial oral debris and soft tissue lesions was missing for 1 participant

Table 5: Prevalence of untreated decay among **dentate** participants (n=302) by selected characteristics, 2021

Characteristic	Percent with Untreated Decay	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit
All Dentate Participants (n=302)	45.2	39.0	51.3
Age			
<65 years	55.5	38.5	72.5
65-74 years	42.2	32.1	52.4
75-84 years	42.0	32.6	51.4
85-94 years	49.6	37.9	61.3
95+ years	39.5	1.4	77.6
Sex			
Male	42.9	32.9	52.8
Female	46.9	38.0	55.9
Race/Ethnicity			
White (Non-Hispanic)	42.6	36.3	49.0
Hispanic or Non-White Race	63.5	47.7	79.2
Medicaid Enrolled			
No	37.5	28.6	46.5
Yes	47.9	37.8	58.0

Save the Date

April 21-24, 2022

Midwest Dental Conference Kansas City, MO

This year's in-person conference will offer continuing education, 22 speakers, 29 sessions, 2 hands-on workshops, a bustling exhibit hall, 3 attendee social events, and more. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

October 1, 2022

KDHA's Fall Conference Wichita, KS

Registration is now open for KDHA's fall meeting with speakers Winnie Furnari (Forensic Odontology) and Sarah Clark (Namaste in My Op). Register via [CE Zoom](#).

Community Care Network of Kansas is asking for your feedback

Community Care Network of Kansas is partnering with the Center for Public Partnerships and Research at the University of Kansas to release our next member needs assessment in the near future. Please put this on your calendars and be on the lookout for an email with a link to access the needs assessment tool before the end of April. **Please note: the member needs assessment will not be coming from Community Care. You will receive a link to the survey from The Center for Public Partnerships and Research at the University of Kansas.**

Community Care is eager to receive feedback from Dental Directors/dental clinic managers; your input will help to form the foundation for our organizational priorities to best serve the Community Care network. CEOs, COOs, CFOs, Medical Directors, and other clinic leadership will also be included in the member needs assessment. Thank you in advance for adding your voice to the process. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mel Martin, mmartin@communitycareks.org.

Employment Opportunity

GraceMed is a place that provides Hopecare; Healthcare that gives everyone hope. Hope that they can afford and access the care they need to live the quality of life they want. Be part of a team that provides hope to those who need it!

To help us provide Hopecare we are looking for a Dental Hygienist in Topeka, KS to work full-time, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **TO APPLY:** Please send your resume to: hfeatherston@gracemed.org.

Helpful links:

Kansas Department of Health and Environment: kdhe.ks.gov

KS Dental Association: ksdental.org

Events & community outreach programs: ksdentalfoundation.org

The Kansas Dental Board: dental.ks.gov

Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association: kdha.org

Our State Oral Health Coalition: oralhealthkansas.org



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